

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Whereas the year of 2011 is recognized as the “International Year for People of African Descent”;

Whereas the African Diaspora is expansive, spanning the globe from Latin America and the Caribbean to Asia, with persons of African descent living on every continent, including Europe;

Whereas in recognition of the African Diaspora, on December 18, 2009, the United Nations General Assembly adopted Resolution 64/169, designating the year of 2011 as the “International Year for People of African Descent”;

Whereas the historical bonds and shared experiences that tie the African continent with the world must be recalled;

Whereas the global contributions of people of African descent must be recognized as a means of preserving that heritage;

Whereas a central goal of recognizing the year of 2011 as the International Year for People of African descent is to strengthen national actions and regional and international cooperation for the benefit of people of African descent in relation to—

(1) the full enjoyment of economic, cultural, social, civil, and political rights for people of African descent;

(2) the participation and integration of people of African descent in all political, economic, social, and cultural aspects of society; and

(3) the promotion of greater knowledge of, and respect for, the diverse heritage and culture of people of African descent; and

Whereas the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, done at Helsinki August 1, 1975, states that “participating States will respect human rights and fundamental freedoms . . . for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion”: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives*
2 *concurring), That Congress—*

3 (1) supports the goals and ideals of the des-
4 ignation of the year of 2011 as the International
5 Year for People of African Descent;

6 (2) encourages the recognition and celebration
7 of the collective history and achievements made by
8 people of African descent;

9 (3) reaffirms the importance of inclusion and
10 the full and equal participation of people of African
11 descent around the world in all aspects of political,
12 economic, social, and cultural life;

13 (4) recognizes bilateral and multilateral efforts
14 to promote democracy, human rights, and rule of
15 law, including those efforts that target the eradi-
16 cation of poverty, hunger, and inequality; and

1 (5) reaffirms the commitment of Congress to
2 address racism, discrimination, and intolerance in
3 the United States and around the globe.

Passed the Senate

Attest:

Secretary.

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. CON. RES. 26

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Supporting the goals and ideals of the designation
of the year of 2011 as the International Year for
People of African Descent.